

REMARKS

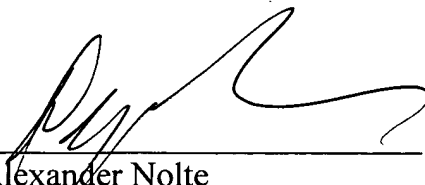
The Office Action dated January 30, 2006 has been received and carefully noted. The period for response having been duly extended by the attached Petition for Extension of Time. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto. Claims 1, 2, 5-20, and 24 are pending and are submitted for consideration.

Per the Office Action dated January 30, 2006, claims 1, 2, 5-20, and 24 are allowed. Applicants have cancelled claims 21-23, the only claims remaining under rejection, from the application. As such, Applicants submit that all claims remaining in the application are in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the remaining rejection and passage of the application to allowance is respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,


N. Alexander Nolte
Registration No. 45,689

Customer No. 32294
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY LLP
14TH Floor
8000 Towers Crescent Drive
Tysons Corner, Virginia 22182-2700
Telephone: 703-720-7800
Fax: 703-720-7802

NAN:kag

Enclosures: Petition for Extension of Time (1 month)